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(54) Washing machine and control method thereof

# Abstract

The present invention relates to a washing machine and control method thereof available for convenient washing at any time and anywhere, because the user can transmit operating orders to the washing machine concerned from outside through either a mobile terminal or connection to the Internet. It is a washing machine capable of data communication with external communication means, constructed by comprising:

a motor for driving either an inner tank, an outer tank or a pulsator of the washing machine,

a load unit including a water feed valve and a drain valve,

a key input unit for inputting the user's request or order,

a preserving unit, capable of reading/writing, for preserving the working algorithm of the washing machine and related information,

a display unit for displaying the functions and working state of the washing machine,

a connecting unit for performing data communication with said external communication means, and

a system microcomputer for outputting, in response to the user's request, control signals to said load unit so that the washing process concerned may be implemented according to the control signals transmitted through said connecting unit, and controlling in such a way that the working state by the washing process implemented as above may be displayed on said

display unit, and

it provides an advantage of increasing the user's convenience, because the user can control actions of the washing machine by utilizing external communication equipment, in whatever place he/she may be.

#### Brief Description of the Drawings:

Fig. 1 is a block diagram indicating the construction of a washing machine by the conventional art.

Fig. 2 is a block diagram indicating the construction of a washing machine according to the present invention.

Fig. 3 is a flow chart showing the control method of the washing machine according to the present invention.

Fig. 4 is a drawing showing an embodiment of the control method of the washing machine according to the present invention.

#### Description of reference numerals and signs for main parts in the drawings:

- 100: Key input unit
- 110: Connecting unit
- 120: Internet
- 130: Mobile terminal
- 140: Motor
- 150: Load
- 160: Display unit (LCD)
- 170: Prescrving unit
- 180: System microcomputer